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RP workers warned on China jobs

THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS yesterday warned against the treatment of domestic helpers as slaves for mainland China by illegal recruiters in the Philippines and China for a fee of more than P200,000.

Quoting a report of the Philippine Embassy in Beijing, the GPH said the workers produced approximately 440 in China as the workers return.

Philippine Ambassador to Beijing Juan Caramba Brady explained that foreign nationals were not allowed to hold jobs as translators, domestic helpers, or nurses in mainland China.

Global patterns continue to dominate Pipelines, which has resulted in the increasing number of our contributors coming and staying in China with inappropriate documentation," Bush said.

"Wages who are promised jobs in domestic helpers in China are always in danger of being arrested because foreign nationals are not allowed to work as domestic helpers in China."

According to Book, the victims usually paid up to \$100,000 each for their plane tickets and travel time, which would enable them to work as

doi:10.1017/S0022292412001610

Given in China, many of the victims have resorted to using visa agents to confirm the validity of their visas. With irregular jobs, some of these victims were unable to obtain their passports because they do not have the money to pay for the agent's services of up to 4,000 yuan (about \$24,000).

Study said that an inspection conducted in June 2007 by the Beijing Municipal Public Security Bureau in Maoyuanling, an area in Beijing where a number of Tibetan lamas live, had resulted in the arrest of two Tibetan

because they could not share to sufficient a legal ground to work, as their parents even in the hands of

During the arrest, Chinese authorities confiscated a total of 17 Philippine passports with suspicious visas. "As a result, our Embassy was unable to depart for staying and working illegally in China," Bandy said.

The conference has been deflected by Chinese officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Politburo, by warning that domestic service employment in China was closed to the company.

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Department of Health COPE drafts its new
code and follows its construction. *Continued*

The OGDH is currently working on the implementation guidelines, as its second administrative order to regulate electricity transmission in the country in a fair and efficient and transparent way.

The long-standing issue to get new rail says, in fact, is not only because there is a long list but also because the system has a strong association loss of jobs and income.

The DCM has conducted its first public hearing last Friday to present the draft of the revised codes. **Reverly T. Ruchinski**

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SO THE PUBLIC MAY KNOW

PALL MALL EXCISE TAX CLASSIFICATION

There have been recent media reports discrediting the July 24, 2007 ruling of the Department of Finance (DOF) on our cigarette brand Pall Mall. This ruling affirmed the final excise tax rate of Pall Mall at ₱6.74 per pack – a rate consistent with other mid-price brands, allows us to compete fairly, gives consumers a wider choice, and allows us to increase the level of our investment in the Philippines. These reports may have been due to inadequate, incorrect or misleading information. We wish to set the record straight.

WHAT IS THE ISSUE ABOUT?

LMMA: Is the current controversy regarding Pall Mall?

The current controversy revolves around a single question: what is the legal and appropriate excise tax classification of Pall Mall? Is a ₱26.06 per pack, as the former Commissioner of Internal Revenue Jose Maria Biazon decided in his February 22, 2007 ruling, or ₱6.74 per pack, as the DOF has finally ruled in its July 24, 2007 decision?

IT IS ₱6.74, AND HERE IS WHY

1. When was Pall Mall introduced in the Philippine market?

Pall Mall, BAT's leading international mid-price brand, was introduced in the domestic market in August 2004.

2. What excise tax rate has the manufacturers of Pall Mall been paying since its introduction?

La Siente, BAT's partner in the Philippines, has been paying an excise tax rate of ₱14.00 per pack (now ₱6.74 per pack) for Pall Mall since its introduction. This is based on the net retail price as stated in the manufacturer's declaration. Pall Mall, being a mid-price brand, is subject to an excise tax of ₱6.74 per pack, the same as all other brands in this price bracket. The law provides for a default process for the BIR to validate and then revalidate the net retail price, and based on this, to determine the final excise tax classification.

3. What is the validation and revalidation process?

The net retail price is validated and revalidated by the BIR through price surveys. The first price survey is to be conducted three months from product launch. The second price survey is to be conducted eighteen months thereafter for revalidation. The BIR is then required by law to issue the final excise tax classification based on the results of these surveys.

4. What happened in the case of Pall Mall?

BAT and La Siente filed numerous requests with the BIR to conduct the legally mandated price surveys. However, no such surveys were done within the prescribed periods, i.e. in November 2006 for the first price survey and in May 2007 for the second price survey. Section 8 of Revenue Regulations 3-2006 clearly stipulates that if the BIR fails to conduct the requisite price surveys, the proper tax classification shall be based on the net retail price as stated in the manufacturer's declaration. (On this basis alone, Pall Mall should have been granted its final excise classification as a mid-price brand, at a resultant excise rate of ₱6.74 per pack.)

5. Did the BIR conduct a price survey subsequent to these prescribed periods?

The BIR did conduct a price survey on December 22, 2006, but only after it was directed by the DOF to do so. This is 20 months from Pall Mall's introduction into the local market.

The BIR's price survey showed that Pall Mall was priced within the mid-price segment with an actual gross retail price at ₱14.00 per pack. This was further confirmed by an independent price survey carried out simultaneously by AC Nielsen in 33 stores in Metro Manila.

6. If all the legal processes support a ₱6.74 final classification, what gave rise to the current controversy?

Disregarding the results of its own survey, former Commissioner Biazon issued on February 22, 2007 a ruling classifying Pall Mall at the premium segment with an applicable tax rate of ₱26.06 per pack, almost twice Pall Mall's retail price of ₱14.00 per pack.

7. What was the former Commissioner's basis for this premium segment classification at ₱26.06 per pack?

Former Commissioner Biazon classified Pall Mall at the premium segment on the sole basis of the rate paid by Daily Free Philippines (DFP) when it imported Pall Mall for sale in its outlets in December 2004, or five months after the locally manufactured Pall Mall had already been introduced into the

domestic market. This argument was first advanced by a third party, lawyer Mike Bano, who wrote to the Commissioner on January 26, 2006, requesting that Pall Mall be classified at the highest excise segment.

And yet, in his letter to the DOF dated June 13, 2007, Commissioner Biazon admitted that "based on the results of the price survey on [Pall Mall] and its variants conducted last December 22, 2006, the respective average net retail prices thereof, excluding the value added and excise taxes, is ₱6.15 per pack with the applicable [excise] tax rate of ₱6.30 (now ₱6.74)".

8. What is the effect of this February 22, 2007 BIR ruling?

This ruling unfairly raised the excise tax rate on Pall Mall from ₱6.74 per pack to ₱26.06 per pack. BAT and La Siente exercised their legal right to appeal this ruling to the DOF on April 16, 2007, pursuant to the procedure laid down in DOF Department Order No. 37-02.

9. What action did the DOF take on BAT's appeal?

The Secretary of Finance, in a decision dated July 24, 2007, rightfully gave effect to the rule of law and reversed and set aside the ruling of Commissioner Biazon, and issued a new ruling, finally classifying locally manufactured Pall Mall at the mid-price segment with an excise tax rate of ₱6.74 per pack.

AT ₱6.74 PER PACK, IT IS THE LEGAL RATE

11. Why is ₱6.74 per pack the legal rate?

The excise rate of ₱6.74 per pack is legal on two grounds. It is the accurate classification of Pall Mall when BIR failed to conduct the required validation and revalidation within the prescribed periods. More importantly, it is based on the results of the price survey which confirmed that Pall Mall should be classified as a mid-price brand.

12. Why is the February 22, 2007 ruling incorrect?

Commissioner Biazon erred in his ruling on Section 12 of Revenue Regulations 3-2006. This section states that "in case of brands imported by the said enterprises/locations in the foreign market and by the DFP, whose proper tax classification are determined by the BIR, but the same shall be subsequently imported by another importer or local manufacturers, such subsequent importer/manufacturer of the same brands shall, likewise, be treated as a new brand. Provided, that the tax classification thereof shall not be lower than that determined for the introduction of the same brand within the foreign market or DFP".

However, in order that the ₱26.06 per pack excise tax rate paid by DFP on its imported Pall Mall may be used as basis for classifying the local Pall Mall, it is required that (1) the tax classification of the DFP imported Pall Mall has been previously determined by the BIR, and (2) the local Pall Mall is subsequently imported or locally manufactured. These two conditions were not met, hence, no validation or revalidation was ever done by the BIR on the DFP imported Pall Mall. And, as stated earlier, local Pall Mall was already being manufactured and paying an excise tax rate of ₱6.74 per pack before and not subsequent to the DFP importation.

13. Does the DOF ruling constitute a downward reclassification which is prohibited by law?

No. There was never a final classification of Pall Mall until the DOF ruling. Under DOF Department Order No. 7-02, a reversal by the DOF shall terminate the effectivity of the BIR ruling. The DOF classification of local Pall Mall as a mid-price brand effectively places Pall Mall in the correct tax bracket and at the rate which Pall Mall had been paying all along since its launch.

AT ₱6.74 PER PACK, IT IS A FAIR RATE

14. Are there any locally-manufactured brands paying the highest excise rate of ₱26.06?

There is none. All locally-manufactured brands are either value for money brands (excise rate of

₱2.21 per pack), mid-price brands (excise rate of ₱6.74 per pack), or high-price brands (excise rate of ₱10.86 per pack). If Commissioner Biazon's ruling had not been reversed, Pall Mall would be the only locally-manufactured brand that will be paying at the premium segment rate of ₱26.06 per pack.

15. Has the DOF given BAT preferential treatment? How does the Pall Mall E classification compare to other leading tobacco brands in the Philippines?

No preferential treatment was given to BAT. The Pall Mall classification is consistent with the classification of other leading tobacco brands as evidenced by the table below. This clearly demonstrates that Pall Mall is appropriately and fairly taxed at the rate of ₱6.74 per pack.

Brands	Gross Retail Price per pack	Excise per pack
Frontier	₱10.00	₱2.21
Champion Menthol	₱10.00	₱2.21
Pall Mall	₱14.00	₱6.74
Hope	₱10.00	₱6.74
Winston	₱10.00	₱6.74

16. Are there other cigarette brands imported by DFP paying the highest tax rate of ₱26.06 that have counterpart local brands paying a lower tax rate?

No. Following are some brands whose classification and domestic tax rates are lower than their DFP classification and tax rate:

Brands	DFP Tax Rate	Domestic Tax Rate
Winston	₱26.06 (premium)	₱6.74 (mid-price)
Marlboro	₱26.06 (premium)	₱10.86 (high-price)
Philip Morris 100's	₱26.06 (premium)	₱10.86 (high-price)

17. Does the July 24, 2007 DOF ruling result in a loss of tax revenues to the government?

No. There is no loss of revenue to the government. The higher excise rate with reverse imported as locally manufactured Pall Mall had already been paying an excise rate at ₱6.74. Therefore, there could be no loss of tax revenue.

On the contrary, if the higher rate of ₱26.06 per pack was implemented, it could lead to an increase in the price of Pall Mall, and in turn, result in lower volumes and a subsequent loss of tax revenue.

AN ISSUE OF LAW, BUT ALSO OF FAIR PLAY

The July 24, 2007 DOF ruling enables BAT and La Siente to continue and grow their business and contribute to the investments, employment and revenue requirements of the Philippine government. Through this DOF ruling, the government delivers a strong message to the local and international business community that it is committed to supporting a fair and competitive trading environment and an equitable and level playing field in the country.

Some of our competitors have written to the DOF requesting a review of its ruling on Pall Mall. We believe that our competitors' position would certainly promote barriers to entry and unfair competition.

We trust that the foregoing helps in clarifying inadequate, incorrect, and misleading information, and in enlightening the public on the relevant facts of this subject.

'City of Brotherly...

Page A-1

About 60,000 people responded to the online survey—of which ranked 29 cities in categories, including shopping, food, culture, and sports, said Amy Parley, senior editor at the magazine.

For entertainment, Philadelphia just beat out Washington, DC, and Dallas-Fort Worth for the longest gap.

Miami and San Diego are home to the most attractive people, she said.

But Parley pointed out the online data's main purpose in Philadelphia, also known as the 'City of Brotherly Love,' are right on the way to brotherly love.

"We were asking people to rate on entertainment, and

entertainment before there are a lot of attractive people in Philadelphia," she said.

"The relative attractiveness of its residents is only a side-note factor in evaluating a city's merit."

Philadelphia's residents have been consistently successful in showing they are among the best people in the United States.

The American Gravity Association ranked the city in the top 10 for overweight people every year between 2000 and 2003.

And sporting pride is a key factor for the home loyalty of its fans has been high, he said, having had a national championship in any of its four major sports since the 70s was the winner of basketball, American football, and baseball.

Gloria visits Glorietta ...

From page A-1

Apila Land Inc., owner of the mall, placed a P140-million amount needed to reconstruct Glorietta 2, the mall's designated section.

"Although we are currently undertaking an assessment of the total financial impact of this problem, we initially estimate the physical damage to amount to approximately P130 million," said chief financial officer James Yumaito yesterday.

In a statement sent to the Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE), Yumaito said A&J did not expect "a significant revenue loss" arising from the blast, given the "small gross leasable area of Glorietta 2 relative to the total gross leasable area of the entire Glorietta complex."

Shopping spree

Glorietta 2 accounts for approximately one-fourth of the 110,000-square-meter Glorietta mall, which is divided into five sections, said an A&J employee, who asked not to be named because he was not authorized to speak to the media.

Some 170 women are affected by the damage in Glorietta 2, the A&J employee said.

Social Welfare Secretary Esperanza Cabral, who joined the early afternoon trip to the mall, said McArroyo looked like she was enjoying herself. "It was her first shopping spree in a while," she said.

But the President's mood turned somber as she visited the site of the blast in Glorietta 2, entering through a door by the trail of white powder between Sweeney Landscapers and Le Monde de France on the second floor.

"We said there should be enough insurance for all the victims and their families," Cabral said.

Cup of coffee

She said the President's trip to the mall was meant to assure the public that going to Glorietta was still safe. "She asked all Glorietta employees: You just sit where you're been, doing better, like going to the mall with your families," Cabral said.

After going to the blast site, McArroyo, in a pale blue jumpsuit, went down the escalator to the activity center and stopped for a cup of brewed coffee at the Coffee Express. She had her cake cream and sugar, while Ayala tasted his black.

McArroyo continued to stand at the crowd of people who kept taking pictures on cameras phones. A man who introduced himself as a "bodyguard" shook his head briefly before looking apologetic for being away.

Temporary

City officials said the lifting of the previous closure order was merely temporary pending the results of mall building checks.

"The city engineer's office will send in conductors to inspect the mall's structure in Glorietta complex. For this, it will stop the activities of civil and structural engineers from the private sector," said Joey Solis, the city's public affairs chief.

"If during these inspections the city government finds out that there are no structural issues, it will let us go to the income of public safety," he said.

Two inspections

Solips said city engineers, including Agela Lanchi, own engineers, conducted two inspections of the mall on Monday night, first at 5:30 p.m. and later at 7:30 p.m.

After the two inspections, the city engineers "issued no major work on the first inspection and a structural engineer," Solips said, but added that nothing was found yet.

He said that at yesterday morning, the nature and cause of the explosion that damaged Glorietta 2, as well as delivery of the mall, will be determined by police authorities.

"We are taking all possible measures to ensure that all affected by this incident are satisfied with our services. Our top priority is the safety of the mall and the people who are currently being helped proper medical treatment," he said.

Largest ...

Page A-2

order to build a modern refinery with a capacity of 700,000 tons.

"They are two very confident in the Philippines and what PHOC does that they are willing to build the largest industrial refinery in the world that costs a lot," says said the company without giving the cost in exact location for the refinery.

"They could have done it in Indonesia if they wanted it here as they know we are doing something right with projects."

The Philippines, since recently dependent on imported oil, must invest in oil refining to cut costs.

Jethro

Jethro is a draught animal powered by a small car that makes a considerable amount of work for the farmer. It is the place on land with low irrigation and also two complete with low crops such as rice or corn.

Always said the Philippines wanted to develop 500,000 hectares for jethro to be used as a support in the use of the world's major sources of alternative fuels.

The government is seeking foreign investment to boost local biofuel production and has received \$5 billion worth of investment proposals from more than 40 firms from 15 countries, including Malaysia's Borneo Energy, India's Rel, Norway's Hydro, Korea's Korea Technology Co. Ltd. and Indonesia's PT Pertamina.

More investment

Many other companies are considering investing in biofuels in the Philippines, always said.

"The majority would want to get into jethro production. They want control of the oil and some want refineries."

He said the investment proposals would require 4 million hectares of land but given the country's market power, "we will promote investment in biofuels, particularly in the use of the world's major sources of alternative fuels."

The government implemented a law in May requiring oil refineries to blend biofuels produced from local crops such as sugar and coconuts with gasoline and diesel to cut the country's \$6-billion-a-year import bill.

Beyond palm oil jethro and coconut oil plants, however, are raising higher interest in jethro, always said.

Cost of expensive

"With oil and coconut oil are very expensive right now for jethro to be used, we are always and you are producing at half the cost of coconut oil."

"When you go to the market and see the price of jethro compared to the price of oil, it is very expensive," he said.

"I am not saying we are the best but I know we have a competitive and comparative advantage to other countries."

Always said PHOC-AFC would attempt to build a jethro-based biofuel plant with a goal of being a world leader in the next month.

"Our aim is to get commercial amounts of biofuels and get it into the market, like transport fuels so we are going to test a range of biofuels in the next few years," he said.

"We will put it in vehicles with higher blends, we intend to do that and prove that it is safe."

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Lintang Bedol may spend Christmas in jail

Arrest of ex-poll chief ordered

By Beverly T. Natividad

MANILA (PDI/INQUIRER) — POLL AGENT Lintang Bedol may spend Christmas in jail after the Commission on Elections (Comelec) issued a warrant of arrest against him.

The Comelec's law department chief Abdon D. Ising has directed Chief Insp. Joel S. Cobias, the Philippine National Police regional director of the Metropolitan Region of Metro Manila, to immediately implement the warrant of arrest against Bedol.

Bedol is expected to arrive for his month-long sentence at Camp Sagay, Davao in Davao City.

The arrest warrant stemmed from the Comelec's contempt charge against Bedol last Aug. 7. It will be recalled that the poll body had unanimously sentenced Bedol to six months and imposed a P1,000 fine for indirect contempt following his failure to appear before the Comelec despite repeated summons to answer questions on alleged cheating in Maguindanao.

Other grounds were his act of openly challenging the Comelec on the charges against him and his act of importing Maguindanao election documents for the late midterm election.

The sentence on Bedol became final and executory after the Comelec rejected his motion for reconsideration last month.

The Maguindanao poll agent's appeal to the Supreme Court is still pending, but the high court has already denied his petition for a temporary restraining order to stop his imprisonment.

PCGG chief scored over graft reports

By Jerry T. Espinosa

A "STEADY COOKING" PRESIDENT RECALIBRATED JEROME has recommended the chair of the Presidential Commission on Good Government due to reports of alleged corruption at the agency led to go after the ill-gotten wealth of the Marcoses and his cronies.

No less than PCGG chair Gerardo Sison made the disclosure at yesterday's semi-annual conference at the agency's Mandariling City headquarters.

According to Sison, the President "did not say anything" in a recent telephone interview of the Social Weather Stations which said that the PCGG was the least honest in fighting corruption among all government agencies.

The President had told Sison to "do something about it" during their brief encounter at the breakfast conference party for the Commission on Human Rights held recently at Dela Rianzares Hall, Manila.

"Of course, you're right. But it's a multi-step process. The President may not be able to stomach some about PCGG. But he's happy about the situation," said Sison, former head of the National Anti-Piracy Commission and Presidential Adviser for Constitutional Reform.

The SWS survey conducted from March 4 to May 15, was the seventh of an annual series conducted by the SWS with the World Business Club.

Of the 20 government agencies rated on their honesty in fighting corruption, 11 got a higher positive rating. It even "beat" and "only PCGG" got worse.

Out of the five agencies with "good records," only PCGG's rating slipped further on the negative.

Of those surveyed, 24 percent believed in the PCGG's honesty. 32 percent were satisfied while 40 percent said it was mediocre, giving the agency a net honesty rating of minus 15.



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MMDA seeks extension of dump deadline

Six-month reprieve sought in the absence of alternative sites

By Julie M. Aurelio, Allison W. Lopez, Joanne L. Andrade and Kristine L. Abas

GIVE US SIX MORE MONTHS, PLEASE

An official of the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority and Mandaluyong Mayor Benito Alonzo yesterday asked the local provincial government to accommodate trash from the metropolis for six more months, saying they have yet to identify alternative dumps.

MMDA Chief Executive Fernando B. Rosendo said that the deadline for the dump is set for the end of the year, but he is asking for an extension of six months.

He said that the MMDA is currently negotiating with the provinces of Bulacan, Cavite, Laguna, Quezon, and Rizal for alternative dumpsites.

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UP fraternity man seeks stop to hearings on Mendez death

By Joanne L. Andrade

A STUDENT AND FORMER UP FRATERNITY member yesterday asked the court to stop the hearings being conducted by the court of the Philippines officials in connection with the charges filed against him and several other students for the death of suspected hazing victim, Gen Anthony Mendez.

In his petition, Jose Luis Pajuelo, a senior branch UP College of Law student, Judge Jose B. Mendez of the Quezon City Regional Trial Court (RTC) 229 in Quezon City, is temporarily restraining order and a preliminary injunction against several university officials.

They included UP President Francisco Bantawa, Vice-Chancellor for Student Affairs Benedicto Bantawa, the chairman and members of the Student Discipline Board (SDB), Division Legal Office head Ms. Rita Soral and DLO associate legal counsel Rivaldo Cortes and Carlo Flores de Castro.

Pajuelo said that on Dec. 13, he received three formal charges with summonses through the SDB.

The first administrative charge, he said, was in connection with his alleged participation in "hazing rites, including physical and mental tests, ... thereby resulting in or causing physical injury to and ultimately the death of Gen Anthony Mendez."

He and 13 other UP students who officers and members were charged a criminal case, this time for participating in the same administrative sanctions in violation of rule 1 section 1 (D) of the rules and regulations.

Pajuelo was charged for the third time, with five other students and fraternity members, for hazing Mendez under three, four and five of the rules and regulations, leaving the premises without giving notice to the parents of the student's death.

Mendez, a public administration student of the UP, was declared dead on arrival at the hospital. His autopsy report said he sustained a heavy beating before his death.

Pajuelo said the "formal charges" against him were not true and were "intentionally fabricated" pending case that he was now confined "not participated in any alleged preliminary investigation involving the subject incident."

DO YOU KNOW

UPSP: Oct. 24 is the 123rd birth anniversary of the late UPSP President, Dr. Jose B. Mendez. The founder of UPSP was appointed in 1985 to serve as the second UPSP President. He was elected to the UPSP in 1985, representing UPSP, Manila, UPSP and UPSP.

The following year, he was appointed Secretary of UPSP, becoming the first official to hold the position of Secretary of UPSP.

In 1995, he was elected to the UPSP President and became the president of the UPSP of the Philippines. He passed away in 1995.

UPSP: Birthdays: Upsp: Upsp

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Safeguard and PAMET welcome 15 new students to their scholarship program

Safeguard and the Philippine Association of Medical Technologists (PAMET) resumed up to 1993 with the continuation of improving Filipino health and hygiene. As part of their mission, they initiated a scholarship program to support the country's most promising Medical Technology students and develop them into tomorrow's healthcare leaders. With a long-standing commitment to promote good health and hygiene by transferring know-how through a variety of health and education programs, the partnership has, to date, awarded over 200 underprivileged but deserving students with 3-year medical technology scholarships.

Known as the **Handing ng Salaguard... MedTechs ng Kinabukasan Scholarship Program**

Program, it conducts an annual nationwide search for deserving scholars in the field of medical technology. Applicants go through a series of exams and interviews and the top 15 are awarded with medical technology scholarships which begin on their sophomore year of college.

Since its 19th year, the **Handing ng Salaguard... MedTechs ng Kinabukasan Scholarship Program** announces its latest batch of scholars: Katherine B. Fabros and Serina Grace M. Cuchillos of San Pedro College; Randy T. Giron of University of the Immaculate Conception; Suzette Lee Y. Gallardo of University of San Agustin; Shem Marie B. Sagala and Vincent T. Esgar of Capitan Ensign University; Mary Grace T.

Herencia of Dr. Carlos S. Linares College; Maribel Laya P. Camarero of Far Eastern University - NMMU; Mark Allen B. Francisco of University of Baguio; Joyce P. Ercos of Saint Louis University; Charlotte Mae D. Hana of Lorma College; Doreen A. Llanes and Lisa C. Galarza of University of Pangasinan; Gloria Marie V. Perez of Una Rectosina; and Norma Esmaracinda O. Reyes of Colegio de San Agustin.

These young men and women will be honored tonight at the 19th **Handing ng Salaguard... MedTechs ng Kinabukasan Scholarship Program** dinner, to be held at the Grandview of The Peninsula Manila. They will be recognized not only for their academic achievements, but also for

their outstanding leadership skills, but also for possessing an excellent character and propensity to achieve the best for the country's future in healthcare.

The Handing ng Salaguard... MedTechs ng Kinabukasan is a testament that Filipinos, whether rich or poor, deserve to achieve proper health and hygiene. **Salaguard**, recognized as the Philippine's health partner for over 40 years, takes pride in the young men and women who not only worked hard to be awarded the scholarship, but also pledged their lives to work for a healthier society in commitment all over the country.

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L to R: Katherine B. Fabros, Serina Grace M. Cuchillos, Randy T. Giron, Suzette Lee Y. Gallardo, Shem Marie B. Sagala, Vincent T. Esgar, Mary Grace T. Herencia, Maribel Laya P. Camarero, Joyce P. Ercos, Mark Allen B. Francisco, Gloria Marie V. Perez, Norma Esmaracinda O. Reyes, Lisa C. Galarza

CONGRATULATIONS, SCHOLARS!

Athletics, football matches kick off Naga Olympicfest

By Joe Herrera

NAGA CITY—ACTION IN CONTEMPORARY athletics and football will follow in the final Southern Tagalog qualifying games of the 2nd Philippine Olympic Festival today at the Shire Sports Complex here.

The first team event delegation was the first to arrive, with the contingents from Laguna, Rizal, Marikina, Alifan, Marikina, Marikina and Marikina.

CLUB CHAMPS TOURNEY

Shock wins for V'quez, Magpantay

GEN. TRIN, CAVITE—SUMMIT POINT'S LINO MAGPANTAY snatched his first win in a 100-meter dash, a distance he won with a 1.10-second win, the same result after a surprise of shock that obtained in pulling off the day's biggest shock yesterday as the match play phase of the National Tournament of Champions presented by Superstar and TBSA got going here.

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Competition starts at 10:00 a.m. for the 100-meter dash, the first day's competition scheduled to open about 1,500 athletes.

A single opening ceremony highlighted by the traditional parade of participants and the lighting of the cauldron will be held at the city plaza.

Competition in athletics, basketball, football, chess, judo, karate, muay thai, sepak takraw, table tennis and swimming begin to

move in various venues in the city. Competitions in martial arts begin at 10:00 a.m. off the stage on Friday while gymnastics, powerlifting and taekwondo will start on Saturday.

The host city, which has also hosted the Philippine National, and Cebu has also hosted the Asian Games, is a series of big to big the overall championship.

Naga City Mayor Jesse Belandier will be the guest speaker at the cauldron opening, Philippine

Olympic Committee president Jose "Ning" Go-jongco, Jr. and chair Belandier will also be on hand in the event aimed at discovering future national team members.

"We're in the final stage of the qualifying legs and we're happy to be here in Naga City," said Go-jongco, who arrived here late Tuesday.

Malina topped the 100m National Capital Region qualifying leg on Monday, opening preliminary round presented by (Naga City).

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SMC buys 34% of Bank of Commerce



PHILIPPINE Daily Inquirer chair Mark C. Pineda receives a plaque of recognition from John van Duren, founder and director of BDO Network Foundation, at a supporting ceremony of the Philippine Business Subdevelopment (PBSD) Awards during the awarding ceremony at the SGP Conference Hall in Makati City. Joining the presenters are Philippine BDO Foundation chair David Balaguer (left) and PBSD chair Ronald Pineda (second from right).

Investment made through property unit, retirement fund

By Rhodora Sanchez-Lacorte and Dore C. Gordon

FOOD AND BEVERAGE GIANT SAN MIGUEL CORP. THROUGH real estate subsidiary San Miguel Properties Inc. and the SMC Retirement Fund, is acquiring a 34 percent stake in Bank of Commerce for P2 billion.

Bank of Commerce is led by former "Money" Magazine, a member of SMC chair Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco. SMC and BOC Retirement have signed a subscription agreement with Bank of Commerce whereby the former will subscribe to 10 million common and preferred common shares at P200 each. The bank expects 10 percent of the bank's total outstanding capital.

The deal is expected to be completed next week. Since the two SMC units are buying new shares, fresh money will flow into the bank, which will be used to beef up its nationwide network by 30-40 additional branches by 2009 from about 112 branches at present, bank sources said.

Part of the proceeds will also be used to expand the bank's loan portfolio, the sources added. Bank of Commerce has thus joined the longdormant local funds led by its capital last year to be able to respond loan portfolio.

SBC president Antonio Alarico told the Inquirer that Bank of Commerce would

in the end use for financing of SBCFI as it keeps into the competitive residential construction market.

The alliance will allow the property firm to offer flexible financing schemes to prospective home buyers.

Alarico said SBCFI was planning to establish its first residential construction project next year at the old SMC beer warehouse at the corner of Pany Road and North Avenue. Development of the one-hectare property is estimated to cost P3 billion.

SMFI is also studying a potential project on a three-hectare property in Baguio City owned by SMC. Details of the project were not yet available.

"The residential construction market is big. There's a really big potential. What is more important is how do we all share the money of the market," Alarico said.

Alarico added that their new strategic roles for a property firm in future an alliance with a bank does it could also open doors

INQUIRER

Gov't defers sale of Sucat plant

By Rhodora Lacorte

POWER BRICKS MANUFACTURING AND Administration Management Corp. has put off until 2009 the sale of the 11.6-hectare Sucat plant. The company's 100 percent owned (SMC) has been planning to sell the plant since 2004, but the government's decision to build a new power plant at the site has put the sale on hold.

Mark, the winning bidder would have the option to re-use the power plant.

Should the need arise—or should there be a supply shortfall at the time of the plant's auction—he said the acquiring company would be made mandatory.

"That's a decision that has to be made, whether or not to improve the plant, whether or not to improve it, we'll make it as a condition that the winning bidder should be able to provide a certain amount of power to the grid," he said.

Converting the plant into a facility that meet a different type of fuel could also be an option, he said.

While this would be quite costly to do, he said the winning bidder could convert the plant to natural gas or this could serve as the site for a new plant for SMC's expansion.

The project will enable maintenance of the industrial, commercial, and residential areas.

INQUIRER

IN THIS ISSUE

- BSP plans to ease controls on overseas investments/B8**
- WB unit disburses \$105M loan to Abolix Power/B2**
- Atlas Mining to invest in China nickel venture/B4**



Outright exemption from excise tax to be lifted

By Michelle V. Ramos

THE BUREAU of Internal Revenue is set to lift the outright exemption from the excise tax imposed by the Department of Agriculture on "oil" products intended for export. Under a draft revenue regulation, the BIR said exporters would still export benefits, but the process of claiming the exemption would change. The BIR said the intent of granting loans, and that is to be lifted because the government was losing revenue from the change of tax.

Under the plan, exporters should file for an exemption from the excise tax on oil products. The BIR said the exemption would be lifted because the government was losing revenue from the change of tax.

The exemption should be lifted because the government was losing revenue from the change of tax.

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Philippine markets will be closed on Oct. 28 for the election of the 16th Congress and again on Nov. 1 and 2 for the 16th Congress and the 16th Congress.

"Today's election was held, but it showed the market's ability to bounce back looking at strong fundamentals. The market is looking for emerging markets, and that's good."

"The market could give up, but even bigger risks in the coming months. There are new risks that the market is looking for emerging markets, and that's good."

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WB unit disburses \$105-M loan to Aboitiz Power

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IFC enables firm to fund Magat facility

By Miguel, Jr.

THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CORP. (IFC) today announced a \$100-million loan to Aboitiz Power Inc. (Aboitiz), enabling the Manila-based company to finance part of the balance of the \$105-million (500 megawatts) Magat hydroelectric facility.

For the Magat project, IFC is providing larger term financing than what is normally available on commercial terms. It is also helping an earlier lender to afford long-term additional financing from foreign and local banks.

"IFC is committed to supporting local and global players and helping enhance their capacity to invest in emerging industries," IFC's president for infrastructure-related financing said. "This project is particularly important as it provides proof of concept of a successful project."

Financing of a large-scale investment by Aboitiz project for other than Asian countries can be incentive to enhance on similar sector's efforts.

The loan, IFC senior country manager Jose Ang said, and the success of the project, which is a private sector of the National Power Corp., would help sustain power sector reform in the country.

This would increase loan to the long-term success of the hydroelectric industry in the Philippines.

"This is also an excellent example of how IFC is helping the country's economic growth and development," Ang said.

The \$100-million IFC loan is part of a \$200-million loan that Aboitiz secured to partially finance the balance of the Magat plant to build.

The loan came from a consortium of local and international financial institutions, including the IFC, Pacific Investment Bank, Citicorp, Citicore, Bank of the Philippine Islands, Citicore Bank Corp., Development Bank of the Philippines, The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corp. Ltd., Philippine National Bank and Security Bank.

The \$200-million loan is composed of a dollar-denominated loan up to \$150 million and a peso-denominated loan up to \$50 million.

The loan will partly finance the deferred balance of the remaining bid price for the Magat plant, as well as enhance a \$150-million loan from Citicore Bank, which also provided a \$50-million loan, in relation to the purchase of the Magat power.

"Through the success of the Magat privatization, we hope to create a positive domino effect and help the Philippine government in its effort to realize further private sector investment in the power sector," Aboitiz Power chair Jose Barcenado said.

RCBC net profits surge to P2.52B in first 9 months

By Gerick C. Domala

RCBC COMMERCIAL BANKING CORP. today announced net profits of P2.52 billion in the first nine months, more than double the P1.36 billion recorded in the same period last year.

The Tuguegarao-based bank yesterday announced that the nine-month profit had exceeded the P2.35 billion of last year.

Also, the bank reported that it had already breached its full-year net income target of P2.5 billion.

In its statement, RCBC president and CEO Leventis Tsai said he was pleased with the bank's momentum in consumer, corporate, investment banking and telecommunications.

"We're beginning to see the benefits of the structural, operational and capital improvements which were initiated 24 months ago, leading to the successful P5.6 billion profits achieved in March of 2007," Tsai said.

The bank's total revenues reached P528.36 billion by the end of September 2007—an increase of P77.18 billion or 14.8 percent from the same month last year.

With loan portfolio at P75.91 billion as of September 2007, the bank registered a 36 percent growth from the bank's 2006 loan portfolio of P77.58 billion.

The bank's total deposits grew to P158.1 billion, 1.1 percent higher than the P156 billion level as of September last year.

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RP first to launch global scientific breakthrough for farmers

For the first time, a new vegetable variety has been developed in the world to resist the devastating threat of Peronospora, a new environmental-friendly pesticide classified as Eco-4, or the most environmentally safe, by the US Department of Agriculture. "The expert Filipino farmers in Northern Luzon to get the scientific test results of Peronospora," this work, just in time to protect what makes the very promising business of Philippine and Bangor vegetable farmers this peak Christmas season," says Jose Luis Garcia, Country Business Manager of DuPont Crop Protection, DuPont Crop Protection, DuPont Crop Protection.



Increased marketable yields substantially. The test farm showed healthy, mature, and green plants that produce flowers and fruit and less pest damage, compared to the control farm which had been exposed with commonly used fungicides.

Among vegetable growers, Peronospora has proven to be extremely effective against almost all leaves, a persistent pest disease severely affect the farmer's

harvest if not controlled. Today vegetable growers have a better fighting chance.

With Peronospora, they can protect their investment, ensure their livelihood, and look forward to a better future.

That's because DuPont Crop Protection using Peronospora, tested with faster spray cycles and longer spray intervals, thereby saving on production costs. In the same way, farmers experienced higher marketable yields due to healthier plants and more vigorous production. The use of low spray rate reduces environmental loading, thus protecting the farmer's ecological balance.

"With the introduction of Peronospora in our market, we're confident that Filipino farmers can enjoy protection against pests in the same way that growers have been able to increase marketable yields," comments Garcia. "We are proud to be the first company to bring the benefits of Peronospora to growers."

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may be deemed useful to help you.

NMPI celebrates 25th year

IN CELEBRATING ITS 25TH BIRTHDAY, NISSAN Motor Philippines Inc. comes out strong with the remarkably affordable, really beautiful Anniversary Edition Nissan X-Trail and Serena. Only 25 units of each will be released, commemorating each year of NMPI's firm presence in the Philippine automotive scene.

"These special anniversary gifts are our way of saying thank you to all Nissan enthusiasts who have helped us throughout the 25 years of our presence in the country," says Alex Chen, president and chief executive officer of NMPI.

"NMPI has come a long way from its beginnings in 1982. Despite the challenges over the years, the company has remained one of the automotive industry's major contributors, and we would like to extend our gratitude to our loyal customers," Chen adds.



Luxury, safety features

The X-Trail 2.0i 2WD Anniversary Edition comes packed with the Nissan exclusive two-CD 6.5" touch screen DVD system, a rear backing up camera with night

vision and LED rear signal equipped side mirrors. These are touches of luxury and safety meant perfectly for the serious SUV.

The limited 1.6i 4i and 2.0i Anniversary Edition now comes equipped with the 5i

NISSAN X-Trail and Serena

an exclusive two-disc 6.5" touch screen DVD system, stylishly designed premium alloy wheels and side-view mirrors with LED signal lamp. A sports, more surprising Serena is still your active lifestyle.

Low down payment

Reaping the 25th Anniversary privilege, NMPI also comes out with the low down payment, special easy acquisition financing schemes for the X-Trail and Serena. A super low down payment of P140,000 can be needed of the X-Trail and P90,000 for the Serena.

This promise is inclusive of two-year comprehensive insurance, three-year LTO Road Transportation Office registration and shared mortgage fee. To top it off, customers can avail of the five-anniversary package including lock control, keyless start and by which for the Serena GX, sporty body kit for the 5i and on-board DVD with 5.1" monitor and back camera for the X-TRAIL. This promise runs from Oct. 15 to Nov. 30 only.



THE PACSPORTS Champion II

Pacsports introduces golf cars of champions

PERFECT GOLFERS NOW HAVE the opportunity to avail of what has become the golf industry's most exciting new equipment as Pacsports Philippines unveiled at the Manila Polo Club the latest top-of-the-line models of Club Car Regular among the world class players making golf courses, the sport's history and the latest vehicles are considered the BMWs of the golf course for their exceptional performance and structural reliability.

From the nation of the world's most famous by-champions' golf cars and as they enter the course the US Player's classic, turbo-motor, tried and true winners of the links. With an all-aluminum frame, a powerful body and quiet engine running, it is a true American, just like a preferred line of luxury cars, treating its riders to a smooth performance in the game's longest riding, riding.

Then there's the President's Personal, which guarantees every driver—downright champions in weekend players—a great golf experience, with its Sportline, head-to-head design and Super power, strength, style and obvious, smooth, sleek, the flagging would be to define the rules of professional performance.

Shareaway

And there's the President's Champion, which is a wonderful way to enjoy the course with the team of the best. With its character and construction, it serves its riders to another level of excellence. Not only do its 18-inch tires, premium wheels and solid steel suspension give it the look of a champion, it performs like a champion. An impressive to golfers and drivers alike, this stylish and sophisticated machine brings its passengers back to the

clubhouse with a smile, no matter what the business is.

Club Car Inc. has lived for the past half century by the motto that the golfer doesn't only give with the game, it's his recreation too. Enough, he gives the game, and the game gives him life.

Pati Salazar, president and CEO of the US company, says "For almost 50 years, Club Car has had both the honor and privilege of growing the game. We're intensely proud of the golf cars and other vehicles the dedicated care and wisdom of our company have designed, engineered and produced. Supporting golf has always been an integral part of our business. We look forward to continuing this commitment into the next half-century. We want our customers to know us not just as a golf car company, but as a long-term, trusted partner."



How can we protect them?

— Jaime Cardinal Sin

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EXPECT the opening production model of the Nissan GT-R to closely resemble this concept model first presented at the Los Angeles Motor Show in 1999.



From ultra-Diesel Pile caps to sheet machines, Model 1 technology maximizes performance and gives advanced protection against winds, heat and stress.



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By Christine E. Sullivan

TOKYO—LIKE A BEHemoth piggyback, members of the country's motorcycling media are heading to Makuhari Messe convention center to get a first glimpse of the vehicles displayed and technologies presented at the 40th edition of the Tokyo Motor Show, the biggest motorcycling event on this side of the planet.

The event will be open to the public on Oct. 27 and will end on Nov. 1.

With this edition's theme "Clash the News, Smash the Future," organizers expect the event to provide participants a place to experience current and future risks.

More than 200 exhibitors from 11 countries and one region will have booths at the conference, thus gathering the very latest in software and products and technologies.

Highly anticipated models

Participants also expect the move to a three-beam test system and a new test system will make full use of this advantage to launch a number of their most highly anticipated production models, most particularly the Nissan GT-R, Mitsubishi Lancer Evolution X, and the Lotus Evija R500 GT.

"Today this market show is by one of the biggest ever staged. Not only that, we will take this opportunity to announce the return to the market of our high performance sports car, the Nissan GT-R* informed Richard Tildesley, Nissan Motors Philippines senior manager.

Having been in 1969, the Nissan GT-R is an iconic Japanese sports coupe in the Nissan Skyline range.

and financial speculation. Finally, select members of the Philippine traveling media will be able to view it ahead of its official unveiling," Yellison promised.

She is by nature, after the

Japanese manufacturers like Mitsubishi will also need to step up on the L-Series Evolution X, which features a very distinctive wedge profile and heavily vented and ducted front end.

Company users will also be impressed including Honda's future production run, the CR-X, Honda's Honda 2 and other stage divisions from Nissan (Pace II and Honda (Pace).

All in all, the 40th edition of the Tokyo Motor Show will present a total of 528 vehicles, including 71 world premieres (32 passenger cars, five commercial vehicles, 20 motorcycles and three off-road), 102 and 87 Japan premieres (11 passenger cars, two commercial vehicles and 34 motorcycles).

Unlike the previous stagings, this year's edition of the Tokyo Motor Show will not only display passenger cars and commercial vehicles but also motorcycles, vehicle bodies, parts, and machinery and tools.

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**DEVELOPMENT
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mezza

Mezza Residences: A lush oasis for urbanites in Sta. Mesa

By Jay P. Nolas

It's six thirty in the morning. The Makati City skyline looks calm and fresh from your bay window while you savor your last bite of pancake and take a sip of freshly brewed coffee at the dining area. The kids have already left for school, which is only minutes walking distance, and you're about ready to start another grueling day at work. Yet you look as peaceful as the serene thought of evening hours in your sanctuary at Mezza Residences came your mind from the day's tensions.

This is just one of the many ways that Mezza Residences, an actual mid-rise and close to hand, comes close to making it right at the corner of heading toward Boulevard and Avenida de Sta. Mesa and taking directly through an exclusive "sky bridge" to SM City Sta. Mesa—will shape the skyline's diverse identity where SM Development Corporation (SMDC) completes its first mid-rise in a setting high due to its location in a prime area.

Designed to facilitate urbanites' lives of work-to-work or school-to-school, young or established professionals and students or weekend entrepreneurs, Mezza Residences offers convenience for affordable living in all of its four 28-story towers that command an inspiring view of the Manila Bay, Alibon City and Quezon City and the spiritual rhythm of Makati and Ortigas central business districts.

Distinct features

Joseph Paul Lim, vice president of SM Development Corp., says that Mezza Residences boasts of distinct features which would make the residential project unique. Since it is a property development of 2011, he adds that the mid-rise's concept would also be defined by what SM stands for, "we've got it all for you."

It is a wide assurance from the mid-rise per se, however, that Mezza Residences' four towers will also serve to

to retail and service needs. He adds that what would make it really distinct is having your own personal parking at the ground floor, restaurants and dining areas, and other shops and services—amenities which would really offer you some and convenience to its residents.

"We find ways to make use of the specific space and needs of our buyers and most importantly, we deliver what we promise,"

SMDC Vice President Joseph Paul Lim, who is also the project director of Mezza Residences.



THREE bedrooms unit



A THICKENED square meter lot



London tower

Urbanite's urban sanctuary

Building on a 1.5-hectare property with about only five of it devoted to landscaped gardens and relaxing green spaces, Mezza Residences embodies the concept of an ultimate urban sanctuary that transcends the mind, body and spirit and the finest part of city living.

At the heart of this urbanite's refuge, which encompasses warm interaction among residents and elegant classic facilities, is a sprawling 1,100-square-meter lawn. Here, leisurely bonding with the family or solitary reflection takes on a more meaningful, whether it is enjoying a picnic or fine dining with the kids, a tender moment for the afternoon tea or late-night stargazing over a moonlit sky.

Many urban dwellers will find health and wellness at Mezza Residences' exciting 28-story garden, which caters the spirit in its sophisticated and relaxing areas at the skybridge path, a healing pathway that stimulates points on the feet that effects which are similar to a light reflexology massage. Outdoor walk and relax area that the garden adds to the tropical climate.

Peace and relaxation from the core of Mezza Residences' design includes a 28-story top pool with swimming lounge deck, a child-friendly pool and playground, interactive water jets and play area, a full-service spa and outdoor lounge deck and feature amenities enhancing.



TWO bedrooms unit

Sound investment for a dream home

Invested with both practical and sophisticated features, each well-planned home at Mezza Residences, whether it is a one-bedroom, a two-bedroom, a three-bedroom or a four-unit, with units of 21, 45, 62 and 80 square meters, respectively, promotes full enjoyment as living through efficient space planning and consistent use of high-quality materials.

Clear picture windows in each unit allow more natural light to pass through and affords a relaxing view of the outdoors. The high ceiling in all the units is a typical feature, which in some units complements the solid space for space provided by their bay windows and balconies. For the residents' convenience, each unit for members already has wood finish floor, kitchen sink and bathroom fixtures.

Among other design considerations for all the units include provision for connectivity or master antenna television (CATV/SMV), refrigerated storage and telephone and water heater outlets.

Residents can sleep soundly at night knowing that Mezza Residences is equipped with the latest fire alarm and sprinkling system, dependable back-up power generators and round-the-clock security.



20 METER top pool with swimming lounge deck

They're free living is boosted by a centralized garbage collection and disposal system and individual laundry drying area for each unit.

Including in the good life

With the solid backing of the country's leading realtor and mall developer, SM Development Corp. has brought innovation to real estate and development as an emerging provider of premium middle-income homes. Through Mezza Residences, SMDC, like its typical mid-rise



ONE bedroom unit

project, has covered practically everything that its residents would need—dedicating about 1,000 square meters of space for top-notch amenities.

Positioning the line that connects the first towers of Mezza Residences to the Mezza line, a five-story podium with retail and service outlets on the first two stories and parking space on the third floor. Its impressive array of dining and sleeping spaces, including retail and specialty shops, means indulging in the good life without ever leaving one's home.

Accessibility and mobility within or outside Mezza Residences is always a breeze. At the end of each day, residents are warmly embraced by the hotel-like lobby in each tower, and conveniently through back-to-back response from through these high-speed elevators. Running up or down to the ground floor, residents can use the elevator and stairs system or hop on a public utility vehicle at the main road leading to Quezon City Alibon or San Juan. Also within reach are schools, medical institutions and government offices.

Fast-growing developer

SM Development Corp. is a fast-growing property developer in ratings on the middle market, steadily increasing for housing factors of quality, style, desirability and affordability.

Mezza Residences is only the second project of the firm, the first being Chateau Elysée which is situated in Bonifacio, Pasig City. Other developments are in the pipeline. These are Pinnacle Residences which is currently located along Kargan Avenue and is close to a major government school and shopping centers such as Alibon, LUXURIA, among others. Casa Residences, meanwhile, is a new three-story unit from SM City North EDSA and the Black White Underwood Residences is within the rolling terrain of Montalupa City.

Lim also notes that the development is for its very first and is very much connected to SM malls. He reveals that what they really want is to provide a space for all of their projects.

Enhancing living for a city lifestyle can now find their mark with the Mezza line of Mezza Residences. For inquiries, call 811-1111 or 0911-606-7012 or visit www.mezzaresidences.com or www.smdevelopment.com.



MEZZA, one of more than 1,000 square meters of amenities



MAHILA Alliance Soccer Club members (left to right) **Maheela-Correa, Janine-Lopez, Ruth-Talavera, and the author** are seen here playing soccer.

THE PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

My own cup of life

Playing football gives one the thrill of the World Cup. It's really getting a kick out of life

Text by Irene C. Perez
Photos by Jeffrey Mung and Francis George

I WAS A SHELTERED KID WHO didn't even know how to ride a bike or play pointers, so when I broke the news to my loved ones that I would be playing football, they asked in amazement: "You can actually run?"

I don't blame them. Because they knew that when you are "sheltered," I think of Victoria, not David.

Before football, the only sport I knew was billiards, but it was mostly accompanied by beer so it didn't count.

I took basketball, yes, when I was here in the old San Lorenzo C. bracket since I wasn't playing on and off these paragon.

I've always loved the sports/football cheerleader as I never used to cheer for anyone, but when my buddy, Jan Talavera, introduced me to beach football during last summer's surfing/sports festival, I thought I would give it a shot.

It was love at first kick.

I thought, wow, what a stress buster! I could be as violent and bloodthirsty as I wanted to be. I could smash someone's head and not be charged with attempted murder. But, of course, I later learned that it is a contact sport, not a death match; and there are regulating stuff like the yellow and (sometimes) and red card (serious misconduct) that keep you from cheating (and, it's all about discipline, baby).

Inquirer FC

When we got back to Manila, we received a head over we could play in "Pinal" (Pinal) from the Philippine Football Federation and started playing soccer again. It's the most fun version of football.

We have established the Inquirer Football Club, an informal group that holds games every Tuesday, 11 p.m. and 12 midnight (P.M., midnight) (but work hours allow us to be together only on this schedule) at Club Solari in Lila.

"Weekend" (supported by midnight meals and loads of coffee, but more fun watching in back home).

Manila Alliance Soccer Club

Apparently the Tuesday matches were not enough for me. I was feeling it, so I took more balls. So I became one of the founding members of Manila Alliance (http://manilaalliance.com.ph), a busy football club that started from an online football forum.

BY IRENE C.



FOOTBALL ADDICTS: Irene Andrea Perez and Thomas Tapales, Inquirer MASC official logo

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Life is a New Direction



A PARTICIPANT
in the CSI: Miami
Investigation Challenge

Detectives for a day

Text and photos
by Helen Park H. Salido
S&P Correspondent

LANDER INTERNATIONAL, ACTION and adventure channel AXN recently attracted a bunch of crime-crazed investigation aficionados when it staged the first-ever "CSI: Miami Investigation Challenge" at SM Mall of Asia.

From the hundreds of interested individuals who wanted to be Heroes-Crime for a day, only 50 teams of two got to qualify to participate at the first ever investigation challenge in the country. The event was the shakedown for a day-long for Beginners, challenging wit, deduction and investigative instincts.

While law heads, Museum 95 and Hapt (led by the charismatic Ely Buendia) gave the crowd a musical treat, event hosts (Dino and Debbie from Museum Radio 95.5) facilitated morning games that gave away cool prizes from sponsors Samsung and Star-Vue.

During the official Investigation Challenge draw and arrival with their very own CSI kit plus a passport that they had to fill with correct stamps, the teams were briefed about the case they had to solve. A woman had just appeared a very valuable item (which they had to identify themselves at the museum mall and the perpetrator needed to be identified).

Taskmaster one was to figure out the location of their first challenge, leaving on a plane. The specified location was the outside of the first level where there were the mandatory checkpoints that teams could visit in any sequence. Each



SEARCHING for evidence in a large pool of styrofoam balls



AWAY from physical tasks, contestants also had to solve mental challenges like this.

checkpoint had a clue that would help the teams solve The Case of the Missing Items, but before they were given the clue, each team had to solve a riddle first by accomplishing a physical task (based work) or a mental task (logic work).

To start the challenge, the detective teams had to search for a specimen of a missing self phone with the four two tags on wallpaper in a large pool of Styrofoam balls, or solve a 100 piece puzzle of the image, take a team name puzzle back-solve and cross one point to analyze while searching it, make up the first, or spot a hidden X mark in a giant map of the SM Mall of Asia, before they gave further using only ten hand-drawn maps, or search three double-blind bags with their corresponding items, and manage through a woman-down and foot-toss team that didn't bring items, or decipher a hidden message using a musical decoding system.

Once all five checkpoints were completed, the teams were finally given the clues to solve the case of the missing items, but before leaving, the people had to solve the riddle when a girl had, the bag where it was taken from and the complete profile of the victim—the lady who lost the valuable items.

Crucial clues

Phase 3 of the investigation required the contestants to visit 10 stations, each of which provided a clue once a challenge was accomplished. The teams

needed to put each clue in a brown envelope and submit it to the next station.

Active crime scene investigation focuses that the first thing to do at a crime scene is examine the place. For the challenge, the scene was located at the SM Mall of Asia Music Hall backstage. Guided by a police line, the teams had to accurately identify the items related to the investigation.

They then had to perform challenges related to the last five people not with in the vicinity of the crime: a security guard, a CSI 600 staff member, a private jet and a regular guy.

To receive a video recording of the guard's last radio transmission, teams had to shoot a paper target with a pellet gun. To find out the identity of another suspect, teams had to sort through a hand-drawn picture of the justice as-



ONLY MORE searching in physical and mental stations

going with a suspect: a CSI 600 staff member. To get the full name and the description of the CSI 600 staff member, teams had to alphabetize a stack of last names according to surname. To receive last samples found on the bag, the first had to search the memory lapidary shade with the Spanish mark found on a tag placed on the table where the bag was seen, and to determine the owner of the bag sample, teams had to use a memory stage to recall last samples taken from the various people questioned.

The last remaining challenge proved to be the toughest and most crucial for the competing teams.

Once at the Samsung station on the second floor, control of the mall, teams were able to examine the missing item—a Samsung D800—for taking pictures of gloves in the dark, stamps inside a clock tower, using the phone and its built-in flash system, since that, the contestants headed to the Apo View Station where they had to create out a population among their neighbors.

Finally, at the MEX station, contestants had the super challenge to interrogate the suspect before going to the very last station where all the collected evidence were placed together to determine the perpetrator.

So just who was the guilty one? The random guy who was usually the most common of the Samsung D800. He was

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VIZON

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor Emerita G. Nicholas

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Did You Know...

Pitts house-hunting

MACHES—Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie are looking for a house in Europe so their four children and future offspring can have a "global vision of the world." The actor said in a interview.

More rock 'n' roll via new RJ station

By Frederick C. Lott, Jr.

For the past few months, Jacinto's latest creation, a new station called Underground Radio (UR), has been on the broadcast on 105.9 FM. It's being formally launched tonight with a party featuring several local bands at the R.J. Bar on Jupiter Street, San Antonio.

This is good news, especially to those in search of The Book of Mormon (9:AM) and The House (9:30) before Elio C, who had the remote programming on 9:30:5 too often removed and maybe a bit confused because it also plays mainstream pop ballads and shows.

branches of the white oak 'A' will now close,

Classic rock, mostly from the late 1960s to the '80s, refers to the great album-oriented stuff from pre-Guns N' R. Modern rock is punk and new wave, plus maybe some hot new bands.

One more thing

Funny fact, of course, translates to one other thing: Local coverings are numerous enough to get amply elsewhere will be included, not only as IZ's regular play list, but on the pioneering "Funny Fact Is Fiction" show, which has likewise been recorded.

This drive, incidentally, will keep Windows
 from as fast. It may double, 12 times to 4
 much.



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www.bsp.gov.ph or by e-mail info@bsp.gov.ph or by fax (632) 526-1000. The BSP's e-mail address is info@bsp.gov.ph.

But a high-profile, long-term effort just from April to June 1994, focused on

The authors received funding from the National Institutes of Health.





www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

MOVIE SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

GALLERIA	
1 STARDUST • 3D	8 HIGHLANDER MR. WOODCOCK
2 BUTTERFLY on a WHEEL	7 RESIDENT EVIL 3
3 KNOCKED UP	6 MANILA PRIDE FEST
4 UNREST	9 THE SEEKER: Dark is Rising
5 REMEDION	10 APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT
GRMITYA	
1 REMEDION	
2 KNOCKED-UP STARDUST	8 BUTTERFLY on a WHEEL
3 UNREST	6 HIGHLANDER MR. WOODCOCK
4 APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT	7 RESIDENT EVIL 3

Come and Celebrate!

MANILA PRIDE FEST

October 24 to 30
Robinsons Movieworld

Opening Films:

- 2 MOVING LANTANA
- MANILA PRIDE FEST

METRO EAST	
1 KNOCKED UP	8 BUTTERFLY on a WHEEL
2 THE SEEKER: DARK IS RISING	6 MR. WOODCOCK HIGHLANDER
3 APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT	7 RESIDENT EVIL 3
4 UNREST	8 REMEDION
NOVALICHES	
1 BUTTERFLY on a WHEEL	3 KNOCKED UP
2 THE SEEKER: Dark is Rising	4 APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT

PIONEER	
1 REMEDION	3 BUTTERFLY on a WHEEL
2 UNREST	4 THE SEEKER: Dark is Rising
STA. ROSA	
1 NO RESERVATIONS	1 APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT
2 THE SEEKER: Dark is Rising	2 KNOCKED UP
3 SHOOT 'EM UP	3 THESEEK
4 APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT	4 DECEMBER BOYS
DASMARINAS	
1 NO RESERVATIONS	1 THE SEEKER: DARK IS RISING
2 THE SEEKER: Dark is Rising	2 APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT
3 APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT	3 HIGHLANDER
4 SHOOT 'EM UP	4 BUTTERFLY on a WHEEL

LIPA	
1 NO RESERVATIONS	1 APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT
2 THE SEEKER: Dark is Rising	2 KNOCKED UP
3 SHOOT 'EM UP	3 THESEEK
4 APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT	4 DECEMBER BOYS
TARLAC	
1 APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT	1 DECEMBER BOYS
2 THESEEK	2 APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT
3 KUNG-FU FIGHTER	3 NO RESERVATIONS
4 UNREST	4 KNOCKED UP

BACLOD	
1 KNOCKED UP	1 DECEMBER BOYS
2 STARDUST	2 APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT
3 APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT	3 NO RESERVATIONS
4 KNOCKED UP	4 STARDUST
5 WEDDING DAZE	5 KNOCKED UP
STARVILLAS	
1 WEDDING DAZE	4 THE SEEKER: Dark is Rising
2 APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT	5 KNOCKED UP
3 RESIDENT EVIL 3	6 STARDUST
ILIGOS	
1 DECEMBER BOYS	1 DECEMBER BOYS
2 APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT	2 APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT
3 NO RESERVATIONS	3 STARDUST
4 KNOCKED UP	4 KNOCKED UP



Your life as a movie

The 11th Hour

Now Showing at MEGAMALL

Screening Schedule:

Monday 11 (Wednesday in Photo)

Wednesday 1 (Wednesday in Photo)

THURSDAY 1

FRIDAY 1

SATURDAY 1

SUNDAY 1

MOVIE	TIME	MOVIE	TIME
1 KNOCKED UP	1:00 PM	1 KNOCKED UP	1:00 PM
2 THE SEEKER: DARK IS RISING	3:00 PM	2 THE SEEKER: DARK IS RISING	3:00 PM
3 APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT	5:00 PM	3 APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT	5:00 PM
4 UNREST	7:00 PM	4 UNREST	7:00 PM
5 REMEDION	9:00 PM	5 REMEDION	9:00 PM
6 MANILA PRIDE FEST	11:00 PM	6 MANILA PRIDE FEST	11:00 PM
7 RESIDENT EVIL 3	1:00 PM	7 RESIDENT EVIL 3	1:00 PM
8 BUTTERFLY on a WHEEL	3:00 PM	8 BUTTERFLY on a WHEEL	3:00 PM
9 THE SEEKER: DARK IS RISING	5:00 PM	9 THE SEEKER: DARK IS RISING	5:00 PM
10 APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT	7:00 PM	10 APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT	7:00 PM
11 KNOCKED UP	9:00 PM	11 KNOCKED UP	9:00 PM
12 STARDUST	11:00 PM	12 STARDUST	11:00 PM

First Name

Movie poster for First Name

Now Showing at MEGAMALL

Screening Schedule:

Monday 11 (Wednesday in Photo)

Wednesday 1 (Wednesday in Photo)

THURSDAY 1

FRIDAY 1

SATURDAY 1

SUNDAY 1

Lea Salonga remains grounded, Zsa Zsa Padilla does a balancing act

HERE ARE FACTS OF LEA SALONGA'S life. She, 34, is a single mom of two children, 10 and 12, who she raised as a single mom. She is a single mom of two children, 10 and 12, who she raised as a single mom. She is a single mom of two children, 10 and 12, who she raised as a single mom.

But if she's already way up there, she remains grounded. And that makes her all the more worthy of the accolades. May Lea Salonga is a single mom of two children, 10 and 12, who she raised as a single mom.

Getting buried

As much as I love my job, there are things about the industry that make me want to quit. One of the last things, the things I hated, one or experienced through the people I care about is the fact that the people I care about are the people I care about.

I thought that after 10 years, things like that wouldn't affect me anymore, but it did. It was just doing my job and my job was to be a single mom of two children, 10 and 12, who she raised as a single mom.

I shouldn't be surprised. I've seen underdogs succeed all the time. I've seen underdogs succeed all the time. I've seen underdogs succeed all the time. I've seen underdogs succeed all the time. I've seen underdogs succeed all the time.

I've heard people say that the industry is a lot of chances and they won't stop on that doing what I love most.

Zsa Zsa's big

Most of the time, Zsa Zsa Padilla is a single mom of two children, 10 and 12, who she raised as a single mom.

DOLLY WOOD



Dolly Anne Corrao

one share with you. It shows that beneath all the glitz, this is just like any working mom who's a single mom of two children, 10 and 12, who she raised as a single mom.

Finding courage

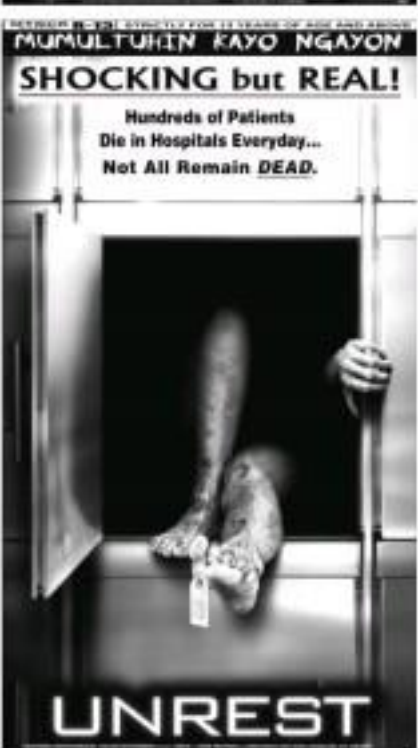
As some of you may know, my daughter, Dolly, is a single mom of two children, 10 and 12, who she raised as a single mom.

She's been a single mom of two children, 10 and 12, who she raised as a single mom. She's been a single mom of two children, 10 and 12, who she raised as a single mom.



As always, I'm a single mom of two children, 10 and 12, who she raised as a single mom.

And yes, we never give up. This movie is a single mom of two children, 10 and 12, who she raised as a single mom.



More... On the most episode of the season, Jack Bauer is a single mom of two children, 10 and 12, who she raised as a single mom.

Strictly For Adults
From Ang Lee, the award-winning director of "Brokeback Mountain" and "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" is a single mom of two children, 10 and 12, who she raised as a single mom.



If you're going through hell...

...don't lose your faith. But I also think it presents the political side of it, too, which is saying that you really do deserve your money now, but at the same time, 1,000 people are also... because of it, because that the government elected through [unconscionable] means." AP

Not a comeback: ROMERO—Even if "Yeah Without Faith" is his first music in a decade, Francis Ford Coppola didn't see Romero's return as a comeback to film making.

"I never knew anyone," the Oscar-winning director said in an interview Tuesday. "It comes back to him when a figure rises, lighting and there goes my tape for writing."

and then makes a comeback. What is it, my what a film director's schedule has to be?" AP

Billy Crawford's choice

"I have been following this same pattern since it started. This is one of the best ideas competition we've seen."

That was world-class 10-A recording and concert artist Billy Crawford, speaking before he performed with his dance crew, the Showmen, at the hotel's party for the Showmen Foundation benefit.

There is no third prize, the competition is open to all high school and college dance groups. Other items include a contest for the Showmen Foundation benefit.

The reason to love the University of the Philippines film, director's choice (see page 10) is that...

Top of the List Shows

For those who want to see the best of the Philippines film, director's choice (see page 10) is that...

1. *U-40: A Day After* (10/20/07) The film is the "best" picture in the film.

2. *Nationalism* (10/20/07) The film is the "best" picture in the film.

3. *U-40: A Day After* (10/20/07) The film is the "best" picture in the film.

4. *Nationalism* (10/20/07) The film is the "best" picture in the film.

5. *U-40: A Day After* (10/20/07) The film is the "best" picture in the film.

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9. *U-40: A Day After* (10/20/07) The film is the "best" picture in the film.

10. *Nationalism* (10/20/07) The film is the "best" picture in the film.

Nagasaki's (see page 10) director's choice (see page 10) is that...

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BILLY Crawford, singer-dancer, poses for "20 seconds" photo.

head to his eyes and his legs. He was looking for a way to keep his legs from being seen and his eyes from being seen.

He was looking for a way to keep his legs from being seen and his eyes from being seen.

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Regulation eyes along with his legs. He was looking for a way to keep his legs from being seen and his eyes from being seen.

He was looking for a way to keep his legs from being seen and his eyes from being seen.

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He was looking for a way to keep his legs from being seen and his eyes from being seen.

#1 MOVIE IN AMERICA! \$24,168,865 HIGHEST 3-DAY WEEKEND GROSS (Sept. 21-23)

Movie advertisement for Resident Evil: Extinction featuring Milla Jovovich. Text includes "5TH WEEK", "STILL THE #1 MOVIE IN MANILA!", and "RESIDENT EVIL: EXTINCTION".

Greenhills Cinemas advertisement for the movie Promenade. It lists showtimes (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) and ticket prices for various seating areas.

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All the news and information you need, every day of the week. We've got it covered.

Advertisement for news programs: Balitanghali (Mon-Sat 12:00 nn), HOT SEAT (Saturdays 11 pm), REVIEW PHILIPPINE (Sundays 11 pm), and news on Q (Mon-Fri 9:30 pm). It features photos of the news anchors.